ABIDING IN CHRIST.

Jn.15:4 Abide in me and I in you.

We are not going to emphasize the mystical presence of X, but the practical presence. How best may we have the conscious presence of X with us?

It cannot be a continuous uninterrupted consciousness.

Our two girls abide with ther mother and father, but they are not constantly thinking about their parents.

Nevertheless they do more than live with mother and father in dependence upon them: as they grow and unfold they are being loved and friendshipped and companioned into a life richer and fuller than it possibly could be without that parental love and care and guidance.

We cannot hope to be constantly and continuously conscious of the presence of X with us-impossible and impractical, not even good for us. But we can, as the child runs in and out of the house under the direction

mother and father, live with Christ who is always an ever-accessible Savior, an ever-ready friend, an ever-constant lover, a never-failing influence over us to live our highest and best and to achieve our greatest good. Then, while we are consciously attentive to the other things of life, Unconscious to ourselves, Christ is helping us and giving dorection to our conduct and protecting us in our dangers.

Suppose the President of the U.S. were to visit you and live with you for a while? Would'nt you fix up your very bst ? Would'nt you try to make your home an agreeable place for him? Would'nt you try to make his stay a pleasurable and satisfactory one? Of course! If you want Christ to abide with you, X who is the greatest man that ever lived, who has done more for mankind and for you than any other person who ever lived; aye more, who is your only hope for the future life, if you want Him to live with you, ought you not to treat him at least as well as you would the President of the U.S.?

And among your friends to receive the President you would

not have a lot of base men, drinking, gluttonizing and carousing and a lot of unself-respecting loud women, would you? Then why expect the gentle, refined personality of Jesus Christ to live comfortably with all the tendencies of your baser self on your reception committee to greet him? How can you expect Christ to live with you so long as you prefer the company of your selfish, passional and animal tendencies to those which are in sympathy with his?

And if the President of the U.S. should bring his friends with him, would you not receive them graciously also? His friends would be your friends.

Jesus never comes to abide with us without bringing His loved ones and friends with him. He brings God with him and expects you to love God with all your heart, strength, mind and soul. Christ brings every man, woman and child in all the world with Him, especially the less fortunate ones, and wants you to love them and try to save them and help them to become the recipients of God's blessings even as you have become thru Christ.

And if the President of the U.S., upon his coming to your home, presented youwith a gift, would you not accept it just as graciously as you knew how? And would'nt you cherish it most highly? Even so when Jesus Christ comes to abide with you He brings certain gifts which He desires to bestow upon you.

TRUTH, GOODNESS, LOVE
PEACE, POWER, PLENTY

To change the illustration somewhat, let us think of the highest and lowest office of most any lodge.

The Presiding Officer-call him what you will. He gives direction to the affairs of the lodge and the members back him up in all the work, they support him in his office. When Jesus Christ abides with us and we with him, we should make Him our presiding officer and then back Him up in every good work to do His will, for all that He proposes and does is for the good of the lodge.

The lowest officer in rank- The Sentinal or Guard stationed at the outer door, to keep out all who have no right to

enter, thus protection thosewhthin from evesdroppers and false friends. Jesus Christ should alkso be our Sentinal or Guard, stationed at the outer door of our lives to warn us of the approach of enemies and to let our friends pass in and out. He will allow noone to pass who cannot give the pass word and prove his right to enter.

What a help in our thinking! In business! In the forming of those habits which form our characters and shape our lives

2 The universal friendship and brotherhood in Christ
3 gift { The Christ Principles of right living.
The Christian graces
1. The Presence of Christ in our lives
4 The governing of our lives and the protecting of our lives to the end that we should become the greatest blessing to others and receive for ourselves the fullest measure of God's righest blessings.